the method according to the above, wherein said cell is an animal cell that comprises a DNA comprising a gene coding the ligand-responsive transcription control factor introduced thereto before, after or during the same time of the step (i);

the method according to the above, wherein the DNA comprising a gene coding the ligand-responsive transcription control factor, comprises in a molecule, a selective marker gene which can function in said cell and which codes a phenotype different from that of the gene (b).--

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claim 18 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) An animal cell expressing a gene coding a ligand-responsive transcription control factor and securely maintaining a DNA comprising in a molecule, the following genes (a) and (b):

(a) a reporter gene connected downstream from a transcription control region, in which said transcription

control region substantially consists of a recognition sequence of said ligand-responsive transcription control factor and a minimum promoter which can function in said cell; and

(b) a selective marker gene which can function in said cell;

provided that the following gene (c):

(c) a reporter gene connected downstream from a promoter which transcription activity is unchanged by having said ligand-responsive transcription control factor contacted with a ligand of said ligand-responsive transcription control factor, said reporter gene (c) coding a protein which can be differentiated from the protein coded by said gene (a)

is not present in said cell.

D2 (cont'd)

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D3

11. (Amended) A method for evaluating a chemical substance to have agonist activity over the transcription promoting ability of a ligand-responsive transcription control factor, said method comprising:

(i) culturing an animal cell according to any one of claims 1 to 9 in the presence of the chemical substance;

(ii) measuring the expression amount of reporter gene (a) in said cell and

(iii) assessing said chemical substance to have agonist activity over the transcription promoting ability of the ligand-responsive transcription control factor when the measured value of expression amount of said reporter gene (a) introduced into said cell is larger than a measured value of expression amount of said reporter gene (a) in the absence of said chemical substance.

12. (Amended) A method for evaluating a chemical substance to have antagonist activity over the transcription promoting ability of a ligand-responsive transcription control factor, said method comprising:

(i) culturing an animal cell according to any one of claims 1 to 9 in the presence of the chemical substance and a ligand of said ligand-responsive transcription control factor;

(ii) measuring the expression amount of reporter gene (a) in said cell and

(iii) assessing said chemical substance to have antagonist activity over the transcription promoting ability of the

ligand-responsive transcription control factor when the measured value of expression amount of said reporter gene (a) introduced into said cell is smaller than a measured value of expression amount of said reporter gene (a) in the presence of said ligand and the absence of said chemical substance.

D3 cont'd

D4

14. (Twice Amended) A method for obtaining an animal cell for measuring the ability to control the activity of a ligand-responsive transcription control factor, said method comprising:

(i) introducing into an animal cell, a DNA comprising in a molecule the following genes (a) and (b):

(a) a reporter gene connected downstream from a transcription control region, wherein said transcription control region substantially consists of a recognition sequence of said ligand-responsive transcription control factor and a minimum promoter which can function in said cell, and

(b) a selective marker gene which can function in said cell,

said animal cell being

an animal cell that comprises a DNA comprising a gene coding the ligand-responsive control factor introduced

thereto before, after or during the same time of above step (i) or that naturally has an ability to express the gene coding the ligand-responsive transcription control factor,

provided that a reporter gene (c) connected downstream from a promoter which transcription activity is unchanged by having said ligand-responsive transcription control factor contacted with a ligand of said ligand-responsive transcription control factor, said reporter gene (c) coding a protein which can be differentiated from the protein coded by said gene (a), is not present in the cell; and

(ii) recovering from the transformed cell obtained from step (i), a transformed cell having said introduced DNA securely maintained therein.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the DNA comprising a gene coding the ligand-responsive transcription control factor, comprises in a molecule, a selective marker gene which can function in said cell and which

encodes a polypeptide that confers a phenotype different from that of the gene (b).

17. (Twice Amended) An animal cell expressing a gene coding a ligand-responsive transcription control factor and securely maintaining a DNA comprising in a molecule, the following genes (a) and (b):

(a) a reporter gene connected downstream from a transcription control region; wherein said transcription control region contains a minimum promoter and a recognition sequence of the ligand-responsive transcription control factor and contains no sequence having the transcription control ability changed by the ligand-responsive transcription control factor recognition sequence and minimum promoter; and

(b) a selective marker gene which can function in said cell;

and provided that the following gene (c):

(c) a reporter gene connected downstream from a promoter which transcription activity is unchanged by having said ligand-responsive transcription control factor contacted with a ligand of said ligand-responsive

transcription control factor, said reporter gene (c) coding a protein which can be differentiated from the protein coded by said gene (a)

is not present in said cell.

**A marked-up version of the claims showing the changes made is attached hereto.**